

"First With the News"

Full Associated Press
Report

Richmond Times-Dispatch

The Weather

Cloudy and somewhat cooler today;
tomorrow cloudy and
cool.
(For full weather report, see Page 3.)

72ND YEAR.

VOLUME 72
NUMBER 102

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RICHMOND, VA., FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1922. —SIXTEEN PAGES.

PRICE, THREE CENTS.

200 HOUSES BURN, 1,000 HOMELESS AS FIRE SWEEPS BERKLEY, VA., WITH LOSS OF \$750,000

FIX \$16,019,398.64
AS VALVE V. R. & P.
LIGHT AND POWER

State Commission Declines
Reproduction Theory
as Basis for Figures.

RAILWAY PROPERTIES
NOT IN CALCULATION

Opinion in Company's Case Is
Handed Down by Alex-
ander Forward.

WATER RIGHTS CAPITALIZED
Sum of \$170,000 Added on This Ac-
count, Against \$800,000 Asked
by Concern.

Light and power property of the
Virginia Railway and Power Com-
pany is valued at \$16,019,398.64, ac-
cording to an order entered yester-
day by the State Corporation Com-
mission. Again the commission de-
clined the reproduction theory as a
basis for the valuation.

The new valuation was made by
the commission following a hear-
ing from a decision returned in
March, 1921, with which the com-
pany showed dissatisfaction. As a
net result, the sum of \$14,000,000
is added to the figures arrived at in
the former case, which was of prop-
erty as of June 30, 1920. The addi-
tions represent new property added
since that date and certain water-
power rights which the company had
failed to include in its claims in the
former case. No rates for electric
service are involved in the valuation.

Other Properties Not Included.
Street railway properties are not
included in the valuation figures.
The Richmond-Petersburg interurban
line, which was valued separately last
year by the commission, also is not
included.

Reproduction values, with the ex-
ample of the fluctuations of the last
few years, are not a fair or sound
basis for valuation. In the opinion
of Commissioner Alexander Forward,
who warned that the "theory of re-
production cost as the time service
is given the public will rise, like
Bancroft's ghost, to plague the dream
of utilities, commissioners and courts."

In an opinion handed down with
the order, Commissioner Alexander
Forward says that, in view of the
declining price levels, the commis-
sion adheres to its former opinion
that such a basis is not fair now to
the public, and may soon not be fair
to the company, thus being too un-
certain as a guide. However, in the
light of the recent decision of the
Supreme Court of Appeals in the
Petersburg Gas Company case, the
commission is obliged to give greater
consideration than heretofore to
present-day price levels, and accord-
ingly has allowed appreciation in
values of power property, on a
basis of 3 per cent per annum com-
pounded from 1914 to 1921.

"Like Bancroft's Ghost."
Pointing out that the Supreme
Court, in the Petersburg gas case,
did not specify any date at which
unit prices should be taken in de-
termining reproduction values, Com-
missioner Forward says in the opinion:
"The rapidly advancing price level
is a rapidly advancing price level.
Reproducing the latter part of 1920,
has been a gradually declining price
level. It may be that in the very
near future regulatory bodies will
be confronted with proposals from
consumers to reduce rates by estab-
lishing reproduction values at that
time upon a unit price level lower
than that upon which large sums were
invested during the high price period
for extensions and enlargements of
utility property. It might happen
that a valuation then reached on
the strict reproduction theory would
represent sums materially less than
the amounts honestly and prudently
invested in the public service. Per-
haps, then, the theory of reproduction
cost at the time service is given
to the public will rise, like Bancroft's
ghost, to plague the dream of util-
ities, commissioners and courts."

The subject of accrued deprecia-
tion is discussed at some length.
The Supreme Court, in the Peters-
burg case, said there should be a
deduction for observed depreciation.
The commission points out that ob-
servation cannot always be used, and
that some other method is necessary
in fixing depreciation on unobserv-
able property. Therefore the deduc-
tion of 15 per cent, arrived at in the
former case, is adhered to.

Commissioner Forward, in his
opinion, discusses in great detail the
Washington Easter Excursion April
15th-17th, \$4.00 from Richmond.
Conduct R. F. & P. Ticket Agents.
—Adv.

Refuse Minister Papers;
Was Hazy as to Hades

[By United News.]
NEW YORK, April 13.—Because
he couldn't give a sufficiently de-
tailed description of hell, Charles
G. McKenzie, graduate of Union
Theological Seminary, was refused
the right to preach by the Jersey
City Presbytery.

He said hell was more a state
of mind than a place, so the
church fathers decided to give
him time to study up on the
geography of the lower regions
for another examination.

COAL STRIKE IS
SPREADING FAST
IN PENNSYLVANIA

Wage Committee Adjourns
Without Reaching
Agreement.

WILL MEET AGAIN TO
CONSIDER SITUATION

Steel Industries' Mines in Con-
necticut Region to Close
Before Week-End.

[By Associated Press.]
NEW YORK, April 13.—The an-
thraxite miners' and operators' com-
mittee on wage contract nego-
tiations, which has been in ses-
sion here since last March 15, took a five-
day recess tonight without hav-
ing begun formulation of an agree-
ment which would settle the present
strike. Members of the subcom-
mittee announced they would re-
new their labors here next week.
Bituminous coal operators, who
have offices here, today reported the
receipt of a telegram from the Con-
necticut and Fayette regions of
Pennsylvania, where the unions have
been concentrating their organization
efforts since the strike was called
April 1, stating that the strike was
spreading like wildfire.

All the coal and coke operations
of the H. C. Frick Company were sus-
pended today, said one message. In
another, the bituminous operators
informed that all of the steel in-
dustries' mines in the Con-
necticut region would close before
the week-end.

The Republic Iron and Steel Works'
mines and coke plants, also were re-
ported to have been so thoroughly
unionized that no attempt was be-
ing made to operate.

Philip Murray, vice-president of
the United Mine Workers of Amer-
ica, declined to corroborate these re-
ports, other than to say that the
strike is spreading rapidly through-
out the region.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4.)

BOOTLEGGING CHARGED;
STUDENT IS EXPELLED

[By Associated Press.]
SYRACUSE, N. Y., April 13.—Rob-
ert E. Turner, 23, a Hamilton Col-
lege senior, has been expelled from
college after a charge of bootlegging.
He was held for action by the
Federal grand jury.

Turner's home is in Seattle, Wash.,
and it is claimed by the police that
his mother is president of the W. C.
T. U. there. At Hamilton he had
been active in church work, having
taught a Sunday school class and
served as a church organist.

JOHN McCORMACK BATTLES

FOR LIFE IN NEW YORK HOME

Famous Tenor Is Dangerously Ill With Serious Afflic-
tion of the Throat—Danger Is Not Passed.
Cancels All Engagements.

[By Associated Press.]
NEW YORK, April 13.—John Mc-
Cormack, world-famous tenor, to-
night was reported by his physicians
to be battling for his life in his Park
Avenue home, where he is suffering
from a severe affliction of the throat.
The physicians announced that
while they believe the crisis was
passed last night, the singer was not
out of danger.

"He is very ill, but the crisis
passed last night," said Dr.
Harmon Smith, one of the three at-
tending physicians. "There will be
danger as long as the septic con-
dition exists in Mr. McCormack's
throat."

Mr. McCormack was taken seriously
ill last Saturday. Reported to his
wife, he was found to be suffering
from a combination of throat afflic-
tions diagnosed by Dr. Smith as
streptococcal sore throat and oedema
of the uvula. These complications
were due to a general infection of

FAMOUS AVIATOR
FALLS TO DEATH
TESTING MACHINE

Sir Ross Smith Killed Try-
ing Out Craft for World
Flight.

LOSES CONTROL AFTER
ASCENDING 3,000 FEET

Brother Alive Because He
Reached Field Too Late
to Go Up.

MECHANIC ALSO LOST LIFE
Experts Puzzled by Catastrophe, as
Weather Conditions Were
Perfect.

[By United News.]
LONDON, April 13.—Fifteen hun-
dred horror-stricken spectators wit-
nessed the dive to death which ended
the brilliant flying career of Sir Ross
Smith at Brooklands today.

The fatal nose dive came while he
was trying out the new Vickers ma-
chine in which he planned to at-
tempt a flight around the world with
his brother, Sir Keith, beginning
April 25.

The Vickers expert had just taken
the machine up for a test flight and
turned it over to Sir Ross. He
rapidly climbed until he was nearly
5,000 feet up.

See Loss of Control.

The machine suddenly swung over
into a nose dive. Spectators thought
it was a stunt, but experts watch-
ing from the ground were amazed,
knowing the machine was not of the
stunt type and that Sir Ross was not
a trick flyer. They quickly realized
he had lost control. An instant later
the wreck crashed into the field,
killing Sir Ross and his mechanic.

His brother, Sir Keith, who had
planned to join in the flight, arrived
too late and found his brother's
body being dug from the wreckage.
He dug himself down on the body
sobbing.

As weather conditions were per-
fect, experts are puzzled at the
cause of the disaster. Vickers ex-
perts say the machine was sound.
Sir Ross himself, after a trial flight
Wednesday, declared: "It's a real
good bus. We couldn't be equipped
with anything better for our great
flight."

Follows Others in Death.
Newspapers commenting on the
accident remarked on the similar
fate which has met Alcock, Hawker
and other well-known flyers in
practice flights.

Sir Keith is overcome by his
brother's death and does not know
whether he will go through with the
flight around the world. Several
months would be required to build a
new machine.

WILL PRESS CLAIMS

IN ORDERLY MANNER

[By Associated Press.]
WASHINGTON, April 13.—The gov-
ernment will "proceed in an orderly
way to file and press the payment
of the claim of the War Department
against the Lincoln Motors Company,
of Detroit, for approximately \$9,118,-
000 on aviation contracts, Attorney-
General Cummings announced late
today, after a meeting with private
creditors of the defunct concern,
whose claims also amount to approx-
imately \$9,000,000.

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streptococcal sore throat and oedema
of the uvula. These complications
were due to a general infection of

Women and Children
to Plead for Pardons

[By Associated Press.]
ST. LOUIS, April 13.—The van-
guard of the "women and chil-
dren's army," which will leave
here Monday on a pilgrimage to
Washington to ask presidential
pardons for husbands and fathers
serving prison sentences for al-
leged violations of war-time acts,
arrived today.

Today's arrivals from the South-
west consisted of six women and
seventeen children. Several scores
of "crusaders" are expected for
the start of the pilgrimage, and
others will be picked up on the way
to the capital.

The "crusade" was organized
by Mrs. Kate Richards O'Hare, of
this city, Socialist leader.

HILL ELECTED HEAD
OF OLD DOMINION

National State and City Bank
President Is Trust Com-
pany Chief.

SUCCEEDS HABLSTON

Rises From Messenger, in
1898, to Executive of Two
Great Institutions.

From bank messenger in 1898 to
the presidency of two great financial
institutions in 1922, is the career of
Colonel Julien H. Hill, who yesterday
at noon was elected president of the
Old Dominion Trust Company, to suc-
ceed the late William M. Hahlston.
Colonel Hill will divide his time be-
tween the Old Dominion Trust
Company and the National State
and City Bank, of which he is also pres-
ident, and which recently bought the
trust company.

There will be no other changes in
the officials of the Old Dominion
Trust Company, though it is probable
that an officer of the National State
and City Bank will be designated as
an executive officer of the trust com-
pany, which will for some time be
operated as a separate institution
from the bank.

Colonel Hill in 1898 was a mes-
senger for the Old State Bank of Vir-
ginia, of which his father, the late
William M. Hill, was at that time
cashier. He was subsequently pro-
moted to more responsible positions
and has held every office from cashier
to president of the National State
and City Bank. He was president
in May, 1920, and has served on the
executive committee of the American
Bankers' Association, and for a num-
ber of years was treasurer of the
Virginia Bankers' Association.

Colonel Hill has always been active
in all movements for the advance-
ment of Richmond, and is at present
vice-president of the Richmond Cham-
ber of Commerce.

The National State and City Bank
is rapidly outgrowing its present
quarters, which it owns in connection
with adjoining property, as well as
the property of the National State
and City Bank, and is planning to
erect a skyscraper on the Main and
Ninth Streets property to house both
the banking and the trust depart-
ments of the two institutions.

McCORMICK LACES

HELD FREE OF DUTY

Treasury Official Orders Released Ar-
tistic Antiques Valued at
\$80,000.

[By Associated Press.]
WASHINGTON, April 13.—Antique
laces valued at about \$80,000, which
were seized from the McCormick
family, declared to be of no value
and sent to Switzerland rather than
back to the United States, after a
day upon, have been held to be free
from duty by the Treasury. Assistant
Secretary of the Treasury Dwyer
wrote to Nels Julius collector of cus-
toms at Chicago, who referred the
case to Washington, to release the
laces from duty as they are antiques
in existence more than 100 years, un-
der paragraph 656 of the tariff act of
1913.

The Board of General Appraisers
here held that sewing the laces to-
gether for exhibition purposes with
thread, did not make them dutiable
as articles manufactured from im-
ported materials.

Warms of Government Ownership.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., April 13.—
President Whiteford R. Cole, of
the N. C. and St. L. Railroad, in an
address here today, warned the pub-
lic that if patience was not shown
while the railroads were attempting
to solve the many complex prob-
lems confronting them, the country
would be faced with the alternative
of Federal ownership.

HIS BOND CANCELED
ANTI-RED GENERAL
SEMENOFF JAILED

New York Surety Concern
Declines to Remain
Guarantor.

WIFE VAINLY TENDERS
JEWELS TO SHERIFF

Bonding Company Deems It
Unpatriotic to Befriend
Cossack Ataman.

ASSETS HE IS INNOCENT

Russian Leader Says He Never Coun-
tenanced Arrest of Attacks
on U. S. Soldiers.

[By Associated Press.]

NEW YORK, April 13.—General
Gregorie Semenov, ataman of the
Cossacks, was locked up in Ludlow
Street Jail tonight, after a day of
frantic efforts by several lawyers to
get a bondsman who would give \$25,-
000 for his release. Semenov was
arrested last week after he had
warrant and freed on bail, but his
original bondsman refused to con-
tinue as surety.

The general gave himself up to
Sheriff Nagle in the latter's office at
2:30 in the afternoon and from then
about her husband sat watching with
eager eyes every person who entered
the door. But as each new person
turned out to be anything but a
prospective bondsman, the Cossack's
countenance, which adorns his
mustaches, which adorn his face,
seemed to droop as the time drew
near for him to enter the sheriff's au-
tomobile for his trip to jail.

Offers Jewels as Security.

Madame Semenov, his young wife,
was courageous during the afternoon.
She had been ill, she said, worrying
about her husband, and she begged
the sheriff to take her jewels for the
bond. But he couldn't, he explained,
although she could offer them to a
bonding company as collateral.

The day had been one of excite-
ment for General Semenov, his as-
sistants and friends. This morning
the general went to his lawyer's of-
fice for a conference, and found there
a representative of the surety com-
pany which had furnished his bail.
He was told that because of the
notoriety of his case had brought, and
because company officials thought it
unpatriotic to befriend a man charged
with atrocities against American
soldiers, they were going to
surrender him to jail.

Chief Aid Also Near Jail.

Just before noon, Colonel George
Kroupsky, who was Semenov's chief
aid in Russia and is now helping him
here, was stopped by a policeman on
Broadway and searched. Kroupsky
had a revolver and narrowly escaped
going to jail himself. He was held
until he finally understood what was
required, and showed a permit.

Just after 2 o'clock, General Sem-
enov, Mme. Semenov and two or
(Continued on Page 2, Col. 2.)

ALLEGED BOYS THREW
PLAYMATE IN RIVER

[By Associated Press.]
DETROIT, April 13.—Three boys,
ranging in age from 14 to 17, are
held in the juvenile detention home
here pending investigation of charges
they threw Louis Dargan, 10 years
old, into Connors Creek, on the East
Side, after stripping him of his cloth-
ing. Young Dargan's clothing was
on the creek bank yesterday, but his
body has not been found.

The boys detained are Edward
Frank, 17; Edward Frank, 14, and
Frank Tamola, 11. They were taken
into custody after the father of an-
other playmate of young Dargan in-
formed the authorities the child had
been thrown into the creek at a
point where the water was eight feet
deep.

ANTI-SALOON LEAGUE

WILL FILE REPORTS

[By Associated Press.]
WASHINGTON, April 13.—Recom-
mendation that the Anti-Saloon
League of America should continue
to file reports of money received
specifically for or directly expended
in connection with the election of
members of Congress, was made in a
report of a special committee of the
league made public tonight by the
national organization.

The report, signed by James A.
White, of Ohio; William H. Ander-
son, of New York; and Wayne B.
Wheeler, of Washington, D. C., all
members of the league, also advises
State branches of the league to file
such reports as are required by State
law.

SLAVS STARTLE GENOA
CONFERENCE BY NEW
DISARMAMENT MOVE

Russians Present Carefully Worked-Out Document,
Showing Burdensome Nature of War Preparations,
French Renewing Their Objections to Action.

[By Associated Press.]
GENOA, April 13.—The "big four"
—Lloyd George, Barthou, Schanzer
and Jaser—have decided at a meet-
ing to present a united front when
the Soviets submit counter-propo-
sitions for the restoration of Russia.

This action is understood to imply
formal acceptance by the four pow-
ers of the London experts' report as
a basis for the treatment of the
Russian problem.

The allied governments had not
previously pledged themselves as
bound by the report of their experts
drawn up at London.

Russians Submit Plan

FOR GENERAL DISARMAMENT

[By United News.]

GENOA, April 13.—A big surprise
was sprung in the session of the
financial commission of the econ-
omic conference when the Russians
presented a carefully worked-out
document on the cost of armaments.
The French at once protested, but
Sir Robert Horne, of Great Britain,
chairman, intervened, ruling that it
was permissible to discuss arma-
ments in connection with budgets.
He reminded the Russians, how-
ever, of Lloyd George's warning that
to try to crowd the disarmament
discussion into the conference might
break it up.

Russia's move came as a total sur-
prise and is viewed as a further at-
tempt to drive a wedge between
Great Britain and France. Delegates
were so taken off the feet that they
was decided to refer the matter to a
future meeting, giving opportunity
meantime for study of the Soviet re-
port.

Plan Big Part in Europe's Burden.

It is understood the report points
out exhaustively the prominent part
armament costs play in Europe's
present economic difficulties and sug-
gests that a reduction in a five-fold
prelude to any financial adjustment.

The growing importance of the
Russians in the deliberations here
was emphasized by the further de-
lay in taking up the allied experts'
report on Russia so that Tchitcherin
and his staff could prepare their re-
ply more thoroughly.

This reply may be of startling na-
ture. At any rate, the possibilities it

HUGE STILL AND THREE MEN
ARE TAKEN IN HENRICO RAID

Wagon Load of Liquor and Eleven 500-Gallon Ferment-
ers Captured in Haul Made by County and State
Prohibition Department Officers.

Eleven 500-gallon fermenters, a
two-horse wagonload of liquor and
a complete copper still of 250 gal-
lons capacity, in full operation, were
seized by members of the Henrico
County police force, co-operating
with the State Prohibition Depart-
ment, in a raid near the Gayton
creek, twelve miles from Rich-
mond, yesterday afternoon.

Using an alleged member of the
operating crew he had surprised
from ambush as a camouflage and
shield against the raiding party, one
of the raiding officers succeeded in get-
ting within a few yards of the plant be-
fore the operators were aware of the
officer's identity.

Two of the crew said to have been
operating the plant made an effort
to escape, and gave the officers a
chase of several hundred yards
through the brush and wood border-
ing the plant before they submitted
to arrest under threat of the offi-
cers' guns.

Remanded to County Jail.

Three men believed to be but the
"tools" of the "higher-ups" in an al-
leged bootlegging and manufac-
turers "ring" said they were Luther
Mann, Jr., Henry Crew, colored, and
Richard Spidway, colored. They
were charged with carrying and op-
erating the still and transporting
liquor. In default of \$1,000 bond the
men were remanded to the County
Jail for a preliminary hearing in
Magistrate Puryear's court this
morning.

The men are alleged to have con-
fessed to police they were "bootleg-
gers" and received \$250 a day for their
services in operating the still. They
said the plant was capable of three
runs a day, and that the output was
more than fifty gallons per run.

According to the raiding party, the
plant was one of the most complete
ever seized here, and was equipped
with "copper" doubler, a process
whereby the liquor is twice refined.
Several thousand gallons of mash and
other supplies used in the manufac-
ture of the product were found by
the officers, and piles of cordwood
cut in four-foot lengths stacked

about the plant gave evidence the
still was operating at full capacity.
The raid occurred shortly after
noon, after the men had carefully
maneuvered about the plant for
strategic positions. While Officers
Lawrence, Sadler and Dennis, of the
county police force, were encircling
the still from ambush, Officer Crute,
of the Prohibition Department,
watched from concealment a negro
unload a two-horse wagon of liquor
and secrete it in brush. He surprised
the man and made him lead him to
his alleged confederates' plant, where
he signalled the county officers sprang
from the woods and descended upon
the camp.

A heavy truck was commandeered
by the officers in bringing the plant
to the city, and considerable com-
ment was elicited by citizens as they
witnessed the still caravan and offi-
cers in motor cars guarding their
prisoners through the streets to the
County Jail.

An inactive still of fifty gallons
capacity and equipped with six 500-
gallon containers was seized by the
raiding party a few hours later in
a body of woods twelve miles east
of the city. A thousand gallons of
mash were also confiscated. At an
early hour this morning no arrests
had been made.

\$100,000 IN OPIUM

SEIZED IN BALTIMORE

Drugs Are Taken From Steward of
the Steamer American

[By Associated Press.]

BALTIMORE, MD., April 13.—What
is said to be the largest amount of
opium ever seized by custom-house
officials in Baltimore was taken
from Samuel Au, steward of the
steamer American Star, as he de-
scended from the ship here today.
He had twenty-five pounds of the
opiate, valued at \$100,000, in a hand
bag. He was arrested by a customs
inspector.

Though Au refused to state where
he got the opium, customs officials
believe he bought it in Theodosia,
Russia, where the American Star
discharged grain for the Russian
famine relief.

Fire fighters were handicapped by
lack of water. So great was the
demand made upon what
there was available that
soon as the hose connected
the made it was necessary to
other hydrant in the hope
of getting better pressure. The
of the buildings was such that

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 2.)

WIND SHIFT AIDS
FIREMEN IN FIGHT
TO CHECK FLAMES

Conflagration Destroys Col-
ored Section of Sub-
urb of Norfolk.

CHILDREN MISSING;
BELIEVED TO BE SAFE

Navy-Yard Sends Six Trucks
Loaded With Food for
Destitute.

HELP CALLED FROM OUTSIDE

Low Water Pressure Handicaps
Battle to Prevent Spread
of Fire.